

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2023

To modify the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 27, 2019

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. KENNEDY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

A BILL

To modify the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “FAST Fix Act of
5 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. FEDERAL AND STATE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP**

7 **PROGRAM.**

8 Section 34 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
9 657d) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the
2 following:

3 “(11) UNDERPERFORMING STATE.—The term
4 ‘underperforming State’ means a State participating
5 in the SBIR or STTR program that has been cal-
6 culated by the Administrator to be one of 18 States
7 receiving the fewest SBIR and STTR Phase I
8 awards.”;

9 (2) in subsection (c)—

10 (A) in paragraph (1)—

11 (i) in subparagraph (E)—
12 (I) in clause (iii), by striking
13 “and” at the end;

14 (II) in clause (iv), by striking the
15 period at the end and inserting “;
16 and”; and

17 (III) by adding at the end the
18 following:

19 “(v) to prioritize applicants located in
20 an underperforming State;”;

21 (B) in paragraph (2)—

22 (i) in subparagraph (B)(vi), by
23 amending subclause (III) to read as fol-
24 lows:

1 “(III) located in an underper-
2 forming State;”;

3 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
4 the period at the end and inserting “;
5 and”; and

6 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(D) shall give first priority and special
9 consideration to an applicant that is located in
10 an underperforming State.”;

11 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “Not
12 more than one proposal” and inserting “There
13 is no limit on the number of proposals that”;
14 and

15 (D) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(6) ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR UNDERPER-
17 FORMING STATES.—Upon application by a recipient
18 that is located in an underperforming State, the Ad-
19 ministrator may—

20 “(A) provide additional assistance to the
21 recipient; and

22 “(B) waive the matching requirements
23 under subsection (e)(2).”;

24 (3) in subsection (e)—

25 (A) in paragraph (2)—

1 (i) in subparagraph (A)—
2 (I) by inserting “and STTR” be-
3 fore “first phase” each place that
4 term appears;
5 (II) in clause (i), by striking
6 “50” and inserting “25”; and
7 (III) in clause (iii), by striking
8 “75” and inserting “50”; and
9 (ii) in subparagraph (D), by striking
10 “, beginning with fiscal year 2001” and in-
11 serting “and make publicly available on the
12 website of the Administration, beginning
13 with fiscal year 2020”; and
14 (B) by adding at the end the following:
15 “(4) AMOUNT OF AWARD.—In carrying out the
16 FAST program under this section, the Adminis-
17 trator shall—
18 “(A) make and enter into not less than 12
19 awards or cooperative agreements;
20 “(B) each award or cooperative agreement
21 shall be for not more than \$500,000, which
22 shall be provided over 2 fiscal years; and
23 “(C) any amounts left unused in the third
24 quarter of the second fiscal year may be re-

1 tained by the Administrator for future FAST
2 program awards.

3 “(5) REPORTING.—Not later than 6 months
4 after receiving an award or entering into a coopera-
5 tive agreement under this section, a recipient shall
6 report to the Administrator—

7 “(A) the number of awards made under
8 the SBIR or STTR program;

9 “(B) the number of applications submitted
10 for the SBIR or STTR program;

11 “(C) the number of consulting hours spent;

12 “(D) the number of training events con-
13 ducted; and

14 “(E) any issues encountered in the man-
15 agement and application of the FAST pro-
16 gram.”;

17 (4) in subsection (f)—

18 (A) in paragraph (1)—

19 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
20 graph (A)—

21 (I) by striking “Not later than
22 120 days after the date of the enact-
23 ment of the Small Business Innova-
24 tion Research Program Reauthoriza-

1 tion Act of 2000” and inserting
2 “April 30, 2020”; and
3 (II) by inserting “and Entrepre-
4 neurship” before “of the Senate”;
5 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
6 “and” at the end;
7 (iii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
8 the period at the end and inserting “;
9 and”; and
10 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-
11 lowing:
12 “(D) a description of the process used to
13 ensure that underperforming States are given
14 priority application status under the FAST pro-
15 gram.”; and
16 (B) in paragraph (2)—
17 (i) in the paragraph heading, by strik-
18 ing “ANNUAL” and inserting “BIENNIAL”;
19 (ii) in the matter preceding subpara-
20 graph (A), by striking “annual” and in-
21 serting “biennial”;
22 (iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
23 “and” at the end;

1 (iv) in subparagraph (C), by striking
2 the period at the end and inserting a semi-
3 colon; and

4 (v) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(D) the proportion of awards provided to
6 and cooperative agreements entered into with
7 underperforming States; and

8 “(E) a list of the States that were deter-
9 mined by the Administrator to be underper-
10 forming States, and a description of any
11 changes in the list compared to previously sub-
12 mitted reports.”;

13 (5) in subsection (g)(2)—

14 (A) by striking “2004” and inserting
15 “2020”; and

16 (B) by inserting “and Entrepreneurship”
17 before “of the Senate”; and

18 (6) in subsection (h)(1), by striking
19 “\$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2001 through
20 2005” and inserting “\$20,000,000 for every 2 fiscal
21 years between fiscal years 2020 through 2024, to be
22 obligated before the end of the second fiscal year”.

